

REMARKS

The preceding amendment is submitted in response to the final Office Action of September 14, 2005 on the above-identified application. Its entry, and a reconsideration of the claims as amended, are respectfully requested.

Claims 5 through 7 are pending in the application. In the action, claims 5 and 7 were rejected on the basis of the prior-art, while, it is noted with appreciation, claim 6 was objected to as depending from a rejected base claim, but indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Referring to the rejections made on the basis of the prior-art, claims 5 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable for obviousness over the teachings of U.S. Patent No. 5,815,606 to Baker et al. in view of those of International Publication No. WO 97/34253 (Oliveras et al./Philips), and further in view of the teachings of U.S. Patent No. 6,269,353 to Sethi et al.

In the preceding amendment, claim 5 has been cancelled without disclaimer or prejudice, and claim 6 has been amended into independent form including all of the limitations of claim 5 from which it depends. Claim 6 is accordingly submitted to have been placed into a form suitable for allowance. Claim 7, formerly dependent from claim 5, has been amended to depend from allowable claim 6, thereby overcoming its rejection based on the prior art, and is likewise submitted to be in a form suitable for allowance.

• The allowance of claims 6 and 7 at an early date is respectfully requested and earnestly sought.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John F. Gulbin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Gulbin" clearly distinguishable.

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